THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • WEDNESDAY • OCTOBER 20, 2021 • ₹7.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

JAB-O-METER

TAKE YOUR SHOT

October 18: 79,74,435 doses

October 19: 37,92,737 doses

TOTAL DOSES: 99,08,97,514

NATIONWIDE	OCT 18	OCT 19
Fresh cases	13,596	13,058
Recoveries	19,582	19,470
Deaths	166	164

KARNATAKA	OCT 18	OCT 19
Fresh cases	214	349
Recoveries	488	399
Deaths	12	14

CENTRE FLAGS SLOW UPTAKE OF 2ND COVID VACCINE DOSE

The Centre has urged states to focus on increasing the coverage of the second dose as total vaccination is nearing 100 crore

REVIEWS PROGRESS OF INOCULATION PROJECT

Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan on Monday reviewed the progress of vaccination with health secretaries and mission directors of national health missions in states and Union territories. During the meeting via videoconference, it was highlighted that a sizeable number of beneficiaries have not received their second dose of the Covid vaccine P3

THERE IS NO SUPPLY PROBLEM: CENTRE

- At the virtual conference, the Centre pointed out that many states have adequate doses for the second jab. If needed, additional doses can be sent to states, it added
- During the meeting, states and Union territories were advised to identify and prioritise districts having low coverage

10.2 crore

VACCINE DOSES ARE AVAILABLE WITH THE STATES, ACCORDING TO THE CENTRE

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILUPURAM • KOLLAM • WARANGAL • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

Gushing currents of a swollen Ganga lash at the statue of Lord Shiva at Rishikesh on Tuesday | AFP

U'Khand rain toll goes up to 28

Nainital bears brunt with 18 deaths

VINEET UPADHYAY @ Dehradun

AT least 22 people were killed in Uttarakhand on Tuesday as incessant rains, exacerbated by cloudbursts and landslides, pounded the hilly state, taking the number of people died due to rain-related incidents over the past three days to 28. According to officials, the toll may go up as many are still missing and some of the rescued have been critically injured. Nainital bore the brunt as the district reported as many as 18 deaths on Tuesday. Three deaths were reported from Almora, while one died in Champawat.

According to the India Meteorological Department data, Uttarakhand received 'very heavy' to 'extremely heavy' rainfall in the past 24 hours with the Kumaon division receiving as high as 500 mm of rainfall, followed by Udham Singh Nagar recording at 403.9 mm, Nainital 401 mm, and Pithoragarh 212.1 mm. The weather station in Mukteshwar of Nainital district recorded 340.8 mm rainfall, the highest since 1914.

"This is the highest even rainfall in history. Such rainfall has never been recorded before. There will be respite from Wednesday as the western disturbance has started weakening," said Bikram Singh, director of the India Meteorological Department, Uttarakhand. Indian Army has been called in for search and rescue operations. Three choppers have also been pressed into service.

"Rescue efforts are on in full swing. Hundreds of people have been trapped at various places, hotels and resorts. They are also being ferried to safer locations," said Uttarakhand DGP Ashok Kumar.

Nainital, the worst-affected district, witnessed overflowing of the Naini lake leading to flooding of the Mall Road as well as several other low-lying localities.

On Tuesday, PM Narendra Modi spoke to Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami offering Centre's help.

While Kumaon division was battered by incessant rains, Garhwal remained unaffected. The hill state has 13 districts in two divisions – Kumaon and Garhwal. P7

WASHED AWAY

Hundreds of landslides block roads across the state

Roads, bridges, railway tracks washed away at some locations

IMD predicts **'very heavy' to 'extremely heavy'** rainfall in the state in the next 24 hours

Udham Singh Nagar district records highest of **403.9 mm** of rain, followed by Nainital district with 401 mm and Pithoragarh with **212.1mm**

Nainital's Mukteshwar recorded **340.8 mm** rainfall, its highest since 1914

People from **Karnataka** who are stranded or relatives of the stranded can call **080-1070, 080-2234 0676**

Heavy showers in Kerala from today

Kerala is bracing for very heavy showers for three consecutive days starting Wednesday, which can go up to 204.4 mm in 24-hour span.

KITCHEN STAPLE PRICES SOAR ACROSS SOUTH INDIA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IT'S that time of the year when the prices of kitchen staples acquire wings, fluctuating wildly depending on the monsoon mood swings. Add to that the higher cost of transport because pricy diesel, and it is the aam aadmi who is forced to bear the brunt. The trend is uniform across the South.

One estimate on the cost add-on because of the fuel price flare-up came from Umesh Mirji, managing director of the Horticultural Producers' Cooperative Marketing and Processing Society in Karnataka. He said a 5-10% rise in vegetable cost is due to the rise in diesel prices, which has already crossed ₹100.

The Pedda Waltair Rythu Bazaar in Vizag stood out as an example of the yo-yo situation. While last Saturday, a kilo of tomatoes was sold at ₹52, on Tuesday, it dropped to ₹44. But the price could soon cross ₹50 again as tomatoes are getting scarcer. "Tomato prices might increase again as a lot of farms and produce were destroyed due to heavy rains and the cyclone," informed Jagadeesh, a vendor.

In Vijayawada, tomatoes on Tuesday were sold at ₹40, while it was ₹24 a fortnight ago; onions at ₹40 per kg as compared to ₹29 earlier; and green chillies at ₹34 while it was ₹16 a fortnight ago. "The prices came as a shock when I visited the bazaar today," said S Dhanalakshmi, a homemaker.

In the Hyderabad market, vegetables such as tomato and green chillies that are usually available at ₹10 and ₹15 a kg respectively this time of the year, are now being sold at ₹30. At the Bowenpally Vegetable Market, one of the biggest in Hyderabad, onions were available for ₹20 a kg till Monday. A day later, its price jumped to ₹30. Other pricey vegetables including drum sticks (₹60), carrot (₹40), capsicum (₹65) and field beans (₹50). CONTINUED ON: P7

State advised to vax 17-yr-olds first

CHETANA BELAGERE @ Bengaluru

ONCE approvals for Covid vaccines for children come through, the Karnataka government is likely to start vaccinating kids in the age group of 16-17 first.

As two vaccines for children — ZyCovD from Zydus Cadila and Covaxin — are getting notified, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) advised the state government to start planning and make preparations for rolling out the vaccines.

"We have recommended starting the vaccination from higher ages that is 17, and then covering other lower-aged children. Also, children with comorbidities should be vaccinated on priority," said Dr CN Manjunath, Director, Jayadeva Hospital, who is also a member of the TAC.

TAC experts opined that as the number of doses available initially will be limited, it is better to follow the pattern adopted while vaccinating adults. P3

EXPRESS READ

Sexual abuse case against Special Public Prosecutor

Mangaluru: Lokayukta Special Public Prosecutor KSN Rajesh from Mangaluru has been booked by the city police for sexual harassment after his intern, studying at a law college in the city, filed a complaint against him. The victim stated that the accused allegedly sexually assaulted her in September. P5

Bajrang Dal leader attacked

Tumakuru: Tension gripped the city after District Convener of Bajrang Dal Manju Bhargav and his friend Kiran were attacked by a group of unruly youth on Bengaluru-Honnavara NH-206 on Tuesday. P7

40% tickets for women in Cong

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

EXHORTING women to join active politics and fight for their rights, Congress general secretary and UP in-charge Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Tuesday said 40% of the party's tickets for the state polls due early next year would go to women. She, however, dodged questions on her own electoral debut, saying she has not taken a call yet.

Asked whether she would contest from Rae Bareli or Amethi, she said, "I'll have to fight one day or the other. But for now I haven't given it a thought."

Priyanka said 40% was a figure to start off with and the reservation for women could be increased to 50% in future. She advised women, "No one is here to protect you. Only those who talk about protecting you are protected, but not you." P9

BBMP hits a pothole, tells motorists to ride carefully

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

COMMUTE on city roads at your own risk: This is what it has come down to as the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike appears to have thrown up its hands on the persisting challenge of filling up potholes across Bengaluru.

Stopping short of admitting that it was lack of foresight and planning that has made the ride bumpy for Bengalureans, the BBMP engineers are now squarely blaming bad weather conditions and lack of adequate bitumen for their failure to fill the craters on roads across the city.

A BBMP West Zone engineer told TNIE, "When we put the gravel into a pothole, we don't have enough time to pour the bitumen. By that time it starts raining and everything gets washed away." P2

A signboard asking motorists to move slowly in view of ongoing works has been put up by BBMP on Hennur Road | VINOD KUMAR T

Major schemes by the Government for comprehensive development of Scheduled Tribes in Karnataka

Education, Training, Social empowerment, Infrastructure and Economic Development Programmes

- Hostel and educational facilities have been provided for **79,160** students in **404** Valmiki Ashrama schools and Hostels and **158** Residential schools and Ekalavya Model Residential schools.
- Scholarship to **5,27,137** students amounting to **Rs. 201 crore** grant distributed.
- Incentive of **Rs.75 crore** to **40,795** students who have passed in 1st Class in first attempt itself.
- Training being imparted to **1,200** candidates in prestigious Training Institutions at a total expenditure of **Rs. 12 crore** to prepare for IAS/IPS and other competitive examinations.
- Loans will be provided to Scheduled Tribes entrepreneurs at **4%** discounted interest rate up to a maximum of **Rs 10 crore** from **KSFC**, Nationalized Banks and DCC Banks.
- Parallel guarantee will be provided to a maximum of **Rs 2 crore** of sanctioned loan from **KSFC**.
- With the aim of providing services, Mobile Health Units are functioning in the State with association of the Medical Education Department and Health and Family Welfare Department.
- Additional food items are being distributed to **43,171** tribal families living in forests and border areas along with ration food grains at a cost of **Rs. 50 crore** through nutritious food scheme.
- Distribution of incentives for inter-caste/widow/sub-sect inter-caste/simple marriage and marriage of [illegible].
- Development of infrastructure in Scheduled Tribes colonies under Pragati Yojana.
- Construction of Valmiki Bhavan/Community hall at Village/Hobli/Taluk/District levels to organise Cultural programmes/Meetings and Functions.
- Construction of **2,732** houses for the beneficiaries of Koraga and Jenukuruba **(PVTG)** communities.

Karnataka Sri Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Limited:

- Under Integrated Ganga Kalyan Yojana, steps have been taken to drill bore wells for **7,477** beneficiaries.
- Under land ownership scheme land has been purchased and given to **1,868** Scheduled Caste landless women agricultural labourers and made them owners.
- Under the Entrepreneurship Development Scheme, **1,884** beneficiaries have been assisted in freight, dairying and sheep rearing.
- Steps have been taken to provide facilities to **3,056** beneficiaries under the Self Employment Direct Loan Scheme.
- During the year **2019-20** and **2020-21**, a total of **8,210** nomadic, semi-nomadic and forest-based adivasi community beneficiaries have been given assistance for self-employment.
- Under Prerana, Micro Credit (small loan) Scheme, **10,832** Members of Self-Help Group have been provided with subsidy loan facilities.

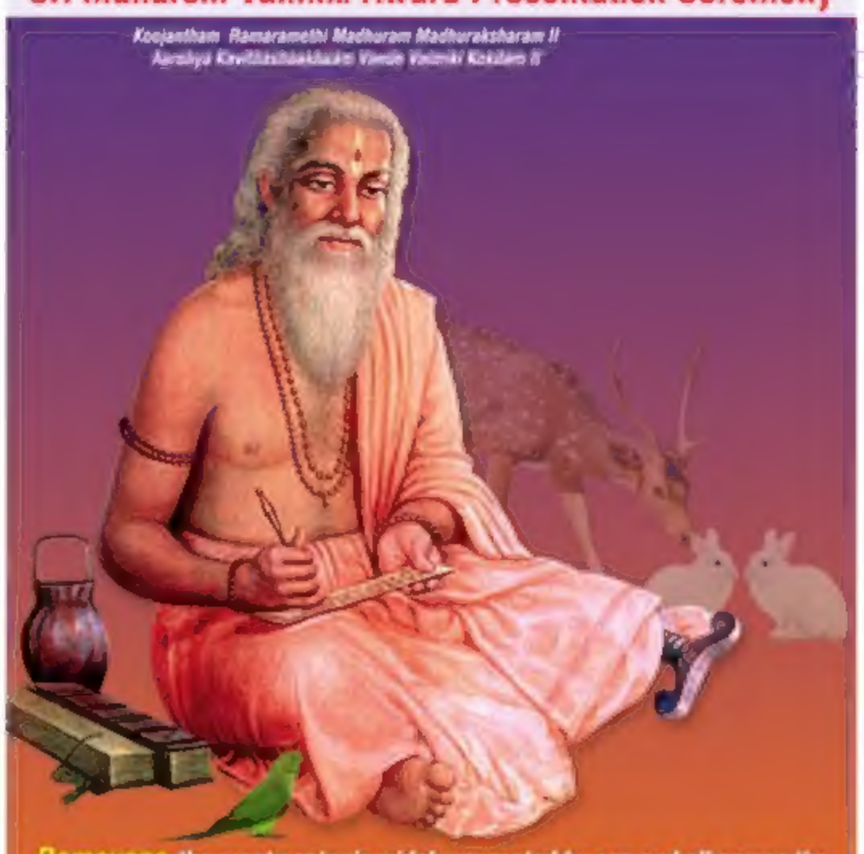
It is the duty of every citizen to protect and preserve the natural environment including forest, rivers, lakes, and wildlife.

Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department

Sri Maharshi Valmiki Jayanthi

&

Sri Maharshi Valmiki Award Presentation Ceremony



Ramayana-the great poetry is widely respected by one and all across the world including poets, thinkers, intellectuals, common man alike since yore, Let's pay our humble tributes to Sri Maharshi Valmiki, who was the author of this masterpiece

Sri Basavaraj S. Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Inauguration :
Sri Basavaraj S Bommai
Hon'ble Chief Minister

Paying tributes to the statue of **Sri Maharshi Valmiki**
Sri B Sreeramulu Hon'ble Minister for Tribal Welfare Department & Transport Department

Presided by:
Sri Rizwan Arshad
Hon'ble MLA, Shivajinagar Constituency

Date : 20.10.2021 Wednesday **Morning** : 10.30
Venue : Banquet Hall, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.

Hearty welcome to all Honourable Union Ministers, Union Ministers of State, Ministers of Karnataka Govt., Members of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Vidhana Sabha and Vidhana Parishath, Elected Representatives and Presidents of Boards/Corporations.

Sri B Sreeramulu, Hon'ble Minister for Tribal Welfare Department and Transport Department interacting with students.

Hearty Welcome to All:

Dr. N Nagambika Devi, IAS
Additional Chief Secretary,
Social Welfare & Tribal Welfare Department

P. S. Kantharaju, KAS
Director,
Scheduled Tribes Welfare Department

Prof. T.T. Basavana Gowda
Director,
Karnataka State Tribal Research Institute

Kavitha M Warangal
Managing Director,
Karnataka Maharshi Valmiki Scheduled Tribal Development Corporation